

§0.12

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the Department. The duties of the Board shall be:

(a) Consider and make recommendations to the Attorney General concerning honorary awards and cash awards in excess of \$5,000 to be granted for suggestions, inventions, superior accomplishment, or other personal effort which contributes to the efficiency, economy, or other improvement of Government operations or achieves a significant reduction in paperwork.

(b) Consider and make recommendations to the Attorney General for transmittal to the Office of Personnel Management and the President for Presidential awards under 5 U.S.C. 4504 and 5403.

(c) Evaluate periodically the effectiveness of the employee recognition program and recommend needed improvements to the Attorney General.

[Order No. 960–81, 46 FR 52340, Oct. 27, 1981]

§0.12 Young American Medals Committee.

There shall be in the Office of the Attorney General a Young American Medals Committee, which shall be composed of four members, one of whom shall be the Director of Public Affairs who shall be the Executive Secretary of the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall be designated by the Attorney General. The Committee shall issue regulations relating to the establishment of the Young American Medal for Bravery and Young American Medal for Service provided for by the act of August 3, 1950, 64 Stat. 397, and governing the requirements and procedures for the award of such medals. The regulations of the Committee in effect on the effective date of this part shall continue in effect until amended, modified, or revoked by the Committee.

[Order No. 423–69, 34 FR 20388, Dec. 31, 1969, as amended by Order No. 445–70, 35 FR 19397, Dec. 23, 1970. Redesignated by Order No. 543–73, 38 FR 29583, Oct. 26, 1973, as amended by Order No. 960–81, 46 FR 52340, Oct. 27, 1981]

§0.13 Legal proceedings.

(a) Each Assistant Attorney General and Deputy Assistant Attorney General is authorized to exercise the authority of the Attorney General under 28 U.S.C. 515(a), in cases assigned to,

conducted, handled, or supervised by such official, to designate Department attorneys to conduct any legal proceeding, civil or criminal, including grand jury proceedings and proceedings before committing magistrates, which United States attorneys are authorized by law to conduct, whether or not the designated attorney is a resident of the district in which the proceedings is brought.

(b) Each Assistant Attorney General is authorized to redelegate to Section Chiefs the authority delegated by paragraph (a) of this section, except that such redelegation shall not apply to the designation of attorneys to conduct grand jury proceedings.

[Order No. 725–77, 42 FR 26205, May 23, 1977]

§0.14 Special independent counsel for Members of Congress.

(a) *Initial investigation.* Whenever the Attorney General receives information from any source indicating that either a United States Senator or Member of the House of Representatives has violated any federal criminal law other than a violation classified as a Class B or C misdemeanor, he shall determine within 15 days whether there are sufficient grounds to initiate a preliminary investigation. If within that 15-day period the Attorney General determines that the information is not specific or is not from a credible source, then the Attorney General shall close the matter. If within that 15-day period the Attorney General determines that the information is specific and from a credible source, or is unable to so determine, the Attorney General shall, in either case, commence a preliminary investigation with respect to that information, except as provided in paragraph (j) of this section.

(b) *Preliminary investigation.* If a preliminary investigation is undertaken as specified in paragraph (a) of this section, the Attorney General shall conduct such preliminary investigation within 90 days to determine whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that further investigation is warranted. In conducting this investigation, the Attorney General shall not convene grand juries, enter into plea bargains, grant immunity, or issue subpoenas. If it is determined that there is